The Connecticut General Assembly



Domestic Violence Criminal Justice Response and Enhancement Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 25, 2023

ATTENDANCE: Senator Mae Flexer, Senator John Kissel, William Anselmo, Atty. Gail Hardy, Atty. Johanna Canning, Lt. Ryan Maynard, Honorable Kevin C. Doyle, CJ Forcier, Joe DiTunno, Mary Kozicki, Atty. Nancy Tyler, Andrea O'Connor, Karen O'Connor, Meghan Scanlon, Chief Alaric Fox, Marc Pelka, Nancy Turner, Eulalia Garcia

- I. CALL TO ORDER
 - Senator Flexer called the meeting to order at 12:34pm.

II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

• Senator Flexer offered welcoming remarks and Council members introduced themselves.

III. SELECTION OF TWO CHAIRPERSONS

 Motion to nominate Senator Flexer and Meghan Scanlon to serve as co-chairs of the Council made by Senator Kissel, seconded by Judge Doyle, and unanimously approved.

IV. OVERVIEW OF PA 23-136 AND CALL OF THE COUNCIL

- Chairwoman Flexer provided background on Public Act 23-136, including the consolidation of the Family Violence Model Policy Governing Council and the Domestic Violence Offender Program Standards Advisory Council into the newly created Council, acknowledging the work done by participants of both previous councils.
- Chairwoman Flexer reviewed the call of the Council as listed in Section 1(a) of Public Act 23-136.
- V. REVIEW AND DISCUSS INITIAL AREAS OF FOCUS
 - Chairwoman Scanlon acknowledged the broad call of the Council and queried Council members on initial areas of focus for consideration.
 - Senator Kissel requested feedback from members of law enforcement on what they felt could be improved.

- Lt. Maynard discussed continued partnerships with outside agencies, reviewing processes, working with CCADV on the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP), and improving training, including addressing attrition and loss of knowledge and operational experience.
- Members suggested receiving an update on the Family Violence Model Policy and Domestic Violence Offender Program Standards; Chairwoman Flexer noted that both documents will continue to be reviewed and updated by this Council; Chairwoman Scanlon noted that both are expected to be subcommittees.
- Chairwoman Scanlon suggested firearm seizure and orders of protection.
- Discussion on one goal of Council being to reduce silos.
- Members discussed rollout of GPS monitoring statewide and eventually being able to look at program data and effectiveness; domestic violence dockets will be broader discussion about best practices and resources.
- Discussion on data collection as a separate subcommittee vs. a focus of all subcommittees with regular sharing to the full Council; identifying data needs and looking for resources to support that data collection and analysis including potential partnerships with academic institutions if necessary; members ultimately concurred that data should be a focus of all subcommittees.
- Chairwoman Scanlon noted that the areas of focus and subcommittees will evolve and change over time as issues are addressed by the Council.

VI. REVIEW AND DISCUSS SUBCOMMITTEE STRUCTURE

- Members discussed potential subcommittees including Family Violence Model Policy, Domestic Violence Offender Program Standards, strategic planning, court-based issues, and law enforcement issues.
- Co-chairs are working to clarify with General Assembly staff virtual options for subcommittee meetings as well as reporting requirements; will email list of initial subcommittees to members so they can select which to join.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

• None.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENT OF TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Council will meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 12:30pm 2:00pm; meetings may be fully virtual during legislative session.
- Next meeting is Wednesday, November 29th from 12:30pm 2:00pm at the LOB (room TBD).
- Co-chairs will determine an alternate meeting date for December.
- Council will meet on Wednesday, January 31st at 12:30pm.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

• Motion to adjourn made by Senator Flexer, seconded by Judge Doyle. Meeting adjourned at 1:25pm.

Please Click the Following Link to Access the Meeting on the Judiciary Committee YouTube Channel:

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